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DEC 19 2005

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**SCULLY, SCOTT, MURPHY  
 & PRESSER**

# Fax

**To:** Examiner: Ernest G. Therkorn  
**Group Art Unit:** 1723  
**Confirmation No.:** 4418

**From:** Leopold Presser, Esq.

**Fax:** 571-273-8300                    **Pages:** 7 (Including fax cover sheet)

**Phone:**                                **Date:** December 19, 2005

**Re:** Applicants: Hannu Paananen, et al.  
 U.S. Patent Application No. 10/787,041  
 Filing Date: February 25, 2004  
 Docket: 16307

**CC**

## **RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

**TRANSMITTED HEREWITH:**

1. Combined Amendment and Petition for Extension of Time Transmittal Letter (in duplicate);
2. Response to Restriction Requirement; and
3. Certificate of Facsimile Transmission, dated December 19, 2005 (in duplicate).

**FOR:**

Applicants: Hannu Paananen, et al.  
 U.S. Patent Application No. 10/787,041  
 Filing Date: February 25, 2004  
 Docket: 16307

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<b>CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE (37 CFR 1.8)</b> Applicant(s): Hannu Paananen, et al.				Docket No. <b>16307</b>
Application No. <b>10/787,041</b>	Filing Date <b>February 25, 2004</b>	Examiner <b>Ernest G. Therkorn</b>	Group Art Unit <b>1723</b>	
Invention: <b>SEPARATION METHOD</b>				
CONFIRMATION NO.: <b>4418</b>				
<p>I hereby certify that this <u>RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT</u> <i>(Identify type of correspondence)</i></p> <p>is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. <u>571-273-8300</u>)</p> <p>on <u>December 19, 2005</u> <i>(Date)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Leopold Presser</u> <i>(Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)</i>  <i>(Signature)</i></p>				
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TRANSMITTAL LETTER  
(General - Patent Pending)

Docket No.  
16307

In Re Application Of: Hannu Paananen, et al.

Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
10/787,041	February 25, 2004	Ernest G. Therkorn	23389	1723	4418

Title: SEPARATION METHOD

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is:

**Response to Restriction Requirement**

In the above identified application.

- No additional fee is required.  
 A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.  
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 Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_  
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*Leopold Presser*  
Signature

Dated: December 19, 2005

Leopold Presser  
Registration No. 19,827

Correspondence Address  
Customer No. 23389

cc: LP:jy

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER  
(General - Patent Pending)

Docket No.  
16307

In Re Application Of: Hannu Paananen, et al.

Application No. 10/787,041	Filing Date February 25, 2004	Examiner Ernest G. Therkorn	Customer No. 23389	Group Art Unit 1723	Confirmation No. 4418
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Title: SEPARATION METHOD

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

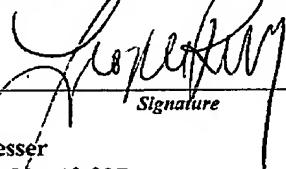
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****Applicants:** Hannu Paananen, et al.**Examiner:** Ernest G. Therkorn**Serial No.:** 10/787,041**Group Art Unit:** 1723**Filed:** February 25, 2004**Docket:** 16307**For:** SEPARATION METHOD**Dated:** December 19, 2005**Confirmation No.:** 4418Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement of November 21, 2005, applicants submit the following in full compliance with the Examiner's requirements.

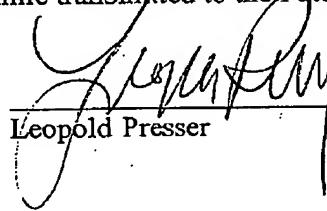
Pertaining to the restriction to a single disclosed invention under 35 U.S.C. §121, applicants herewith provisionally elect Group I, comprising Claims 1-39, drawn to an SMB system.

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Dated: December 19, 2005

  
Leopold Presser

However, in connection with the foregoing, applicants also note that Group II, comprising Claim 40, drawn to a separation process, is particularly adapted to be implemented through the intermediary of the system of Claims 1-39. Although, conceivably, the system can be applied to different processes, in essence, the system was designed to be utilized in implementing the process of Claim 40, and conversely, Claim 40 was adapted to be utilized in conjunction with the system of Claims 1-39. In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request that Claim 40 be examined in the present application as being directed to a process that is implemented by the inventive SMB system and possesses the necessary unity of invention.

Furthermore, in connection with applicants' election requirement of a single disclosed species, in addition to the claims, which are deemed to be generic, in effect, Claims 1-40, applicants respectfully indicate as follows:

With regard to Election I of a single species, applicants elect the species of a strong cation exchange resin in a monovalent metal form. In this connection, the claims, which specifically read on this species, are Claims 7-11.

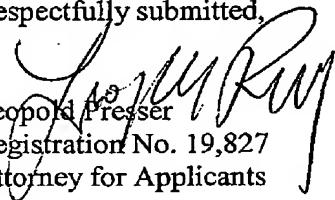
With regard to Election II of a particular species wherein the solution is to be fractionated, applicants elect a beet derived juice, which covers, for example, molasses and vinasse. The species, which is specifically directed to the foregoing, is set forth in Claim 37, as elected herewith.

Finally, with regard to the species of Election III, pertaining to the product which is to be recovered, applicants elect betaine, as set forth in Claim 39.

Accordingly, inasmuch as applicants have fully complied with the Restriction Requirement, as requested by the Examiner, the early and favorable examination of the application on the merits is earnestly solicited.

However, in the event that the Examiner has any queries concerning foregoing elections, applicants' attorney respectfully requests that he be accorded the courtesy of possibly a telephone conference to discuss any matters in need of attention.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Leopold Presser  
Registration No. 19,827  
Attorney for Applicants

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